

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 246453

14

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APPROVED BY STR:CYEUTTER

AGRIC;RBELL (DRAFT)

TREAS:JRAY

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TO USDEL MTN GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE IMPASSE

FOR AMBASSADOR DENT FROM WALKER

REF: MTN GENEVA 7803

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL REQUEST THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE ARE PROVIDED FOR USE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH EC OFFICIALS ON RESOLUTION OF GROUP AGRICULTURE IMPASSE.

2. WE COULD ACCEPT LANGUAGE PROPOSED PARA (2) (B) REFTEL ON BASIS INDICATED PARA 2(A), THAT CHAPEAU WOULD INCLUDE LANGUAGE EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZING THE OBLIGATION OF GROUP AGRICULTURE AND ITS SUBGROUPS TO COMMUNICATE REPORTS OF THEIR WORK AFTER EACH WORKING SESSION. WE ASSUME AS IN EARLIER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 246453

FORMULATIONS THAT CHAPEAU WOULD ALSO INCORPORATE LANGUAGE

OF PARA 2 OF THE MAY 8 COMPROMISE (MTN/AG/1).

3. WE CANNOT ACCEPT EC PROPOSAL PARA 2(C) THAT JOINT MEETINGS BE HELD ONLY AT THE DIRECTION OF THE TNC. EXPECTATION THAT ANY PROPOSAL FOR JOINT MEETINGS SUBMITTED TO TNC WOULD BE OPPOSED BY EC INDICATES EC IS CONTINUING TO MAINTAIN FRENCH POSITION ON EXCLUSIVITY OF GROUP AGRICULTURE TO DEAL WITH AGRICULTURAL ISSUES. WE DO NOT ACCEPT THIS AND CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THAT MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS SHOULD BE

NEGOTIATED IN THE FUNCTIONAL GROUPS AND COVER ALL TRADE. THE JOINT MEETING CONCEPT REPRESENTS AN EFFORT TO BRIDGE THE DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS BY PROVIDING A PROCEDURE WHEREBY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GROUP AGRICULTURE AND THE FUNCTIONAL GROUPS REGARDING THE IMPLICATIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL TRADE OF MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED IN THE FUNCTIONAL GROUPS CAN BE RESOLVED. IF THE PROCEDURAL IMPASSE CANNOT BE RESOLVED YOU SHOULD INDICATE TO THE EC THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACTS ON THE ISSUE, HOWEVER; THE IMPLICATION ON CONTINUED PROCEDURAL IMPASSE MAY WELL BE THAT NO ADDITIONAL WORK CAN PROCEED IN GROUP AGRICULTURE. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR LANGUAGE WHICH CLEARLY PROVIDES FOR RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GROUP AGRICULTURE AND OTHER GROUPS THROUGH JOINT MEETINGS BEFORE ESCALATION TO TNC (PARA 6B OPTION 1 OF REFTEL). RESORT TO TNC SHOULD ONLY BE AFTER ALL POSSIBLE AVENUES FOR RESOLVING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GROUPS HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED.

4. WE HAVE NO PROBLEMS WITH FOUR-STEP PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING ALL MEASURES AFFECTING "OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS" AS FORMULATED IN PARA 3.

5. RE PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING QR'S (PARA 4) WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT AGREEMENT ON PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD PERMIT BILATERAL CONSULTATION ON PRODUCTS, INCLUDING GRAINS, MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTS AND IMMEDIATE REPORTING OF THE RESULTS THEREOF IS ESSENTIAL TO RESOLUTION OF THE CURRENT GROUP AGRICULTURE IMPASSE. YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS THIS POINT ON BASIS OF THE FORMULATION IN PARA 4 OF REFTEL. KISSINGER

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